

REMARKS

Interview

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy of the telephonic interview on April 14, 2005, in which the claim amendments made above were discussed.

Claim Status

Currently, claims 1-55 are pending in this application, including independent claims 1, 28 and 55. Applicants have amended claims 1, 4, 8, 12, 28, 32, 36, 40 and 55 to address the rejections raised by the Examiner. Support for these amendments can be found at least at pages 10, 19 and 20 of the specification. No new matter has been added.

35 USC § 112 Rejections

Claims 1, 12, and 40 have been rejected under 35 USC § 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Applicants have amended these claims to address these rejections. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, since the amended claims are no longer indefinite, it is respectfully suggested that these rejections under 35 USC § 112 be withdrawn.

35 USC § 103 Rejections

Claims 1-11, 15-16, 18-23, 25, 27-39, 43-44, 46-51, 53 and 55

Claims 1-11, 15-16, 18-23, 25, 27-39, 43-44, 46-51, 53 and 55 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious in light of United States Patent 6,784,899 to Barrus, et al. ("Barrus"). Independent claims 1, 28, and 55 as amended each recite synchronizing "each audio narration clip with its associated visual slide" within "a presentation containing a plurality of visual slides" and "thereby facilitating automatic display of the visual slides and synchronized play of the audio narration clip corresponding thereto."

Barrus teaches the association of various components (e.g., documents, voicemail, video mail, etc.) into one "message" that can then be delivered or retrieved remotely. Once delivered,

the user selects those elements of the message they wish to view or listen to. As recognized by Examiner, the Barrus system includes “a key of action-to-index correspondence” (column 14 line 50), “links between message objects” (column 14 line 59), and “indices corresponding to each message portion” (column 14 line 64). However, the links and indices described by Barrus are used merely to associate message elements with each other and an associated delivery means. More specifically, Barrus states:

The unique indices 730 preferably have two components. A first component 732 indicates the type of action that will be taken by the system 100a if the user 102 inputs the index as part of the process of retrieving a message portion 706a, 706b, 708, 710, 712, and 714. The second component 734 is a number that uniquely identifies upon which message portion the action will be taken. (column 15 lines 6 – 10.)

The indices described by Barrus merely create associations among files and provide delivery instructions to the system. These associations are limited – the Barrus system cannot create a temporally sequential presentation of associated elements. The viewer must manually activate each new element (or set of associated elements) in order to view it.

In contrast, Applicants’ claimed invention allows a user to create a presentation containing multiple slides, create audio clips, and synchronize those clips to *individual slides* of the presentation. As a result, when the presentation is viewed by a remote user the slides appear sequentially as the corresponding audio clip is played. Therefore, the remote viewer sees and hears a synchronized presentation that changes over time. The indices as described by Barrus do not provide such synchronization of distinct components, nor does the Barrus system facilitate sequential play of these components.

Accordingly, since the art relied upon does not teach or suggest each and every limitation of independent claims 1, 28 and 55 as amended, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections over Barrus should be withdrawn and these claims, as well as those claims that depend directly or indirectly therefrom, allowed.

Claims 12-14, 17, 40-42, and 45

Claims 12-14, 17, 40-42, and 45 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Barrus in light of “To Upload or Change Your Home Page” from bright.net (“bright.net”). The Examiner suggests that bright.net teaches the use of a source presentation window and a destination presentation window. Even if this were so – and Applicants contend it is not – claims 12-14 and 17 depend from claim 1 and claims 40-42, and 45 depend from claim 28, and thus include the synchronization of audio clips to individual slides within a presentation. These features are not found in Barrus or bright.net. Accordingly, since the art relied upon does not teach or suggest each and every limitation of claims 12-14, 17, 40-42, and 45, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections based on Barrus and bright.net should be withdrawn and these claims, as well as those claims that depend directly or indirectly therefrom, allowed.

Claims 24, 26, 52, and 54

Claims 24, 26, 52, and 54 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Barrus in light of U.S. Patent No. 6,161,137 to Ogdon, et al. (“Ogdon”). The Examiner suggests that Ogdon teaches the use of a report component that generates tracking reports. Even if this were so – and Applicants contend it is not – claims 24 and 26 depend from claim 1 and claims 52 and 54 depend from claim 28, and thus include the synchronization of audio clips to individual slides within a presentation. These features are not found in Barrus or Ogdon. Accordingly, since the art relied upon does not teach or suggest each and every limitation of claims 24, 26, 52, and 54, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections based on Barrus and Ogdon should be withdrawn and these claims, as well as those claims that depend directly or indirectly therefrom, allowed.

CONCLUSION

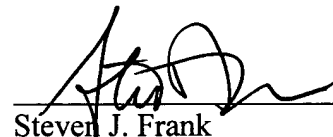
In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe that the case is in condition for immediate allowance. Early favorable action is respectfully solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned discuss any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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